

REMARKS

Claims 1-20, 22, 23 and 25-28 are pending in the present application. Claim 20 has been amended, claims 21 and 24 have been canceled and claims 27 and 28 have been added. Claims 1, 7, 16 and 20 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 20, 23, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onda, U.S. Patent No. 4,790,271 in view of Haghgoie et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,357,409. Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onda and Haghgoie et al. as applied to claim 20 above, and further in view of Brinn, USPN 6,202,499. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As the Examiner will note, claim 20 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claims 21 and 24, which have been canceled. In the Examiner's Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 24 was directed to allowable subject matter. In view of this, it is believed that independent claim 20 is now in condition for allowance.

With regard to dependent claims 22, 23, 25 and 26, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable due to their respective dependence upon allowable independent claim 20, as well as due to the additional recitations in these claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 20, 22, 23, 25 and 26 clearly define the present invention over the references relied

on by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Additional Claims

Additional claims 27 and 28 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants respectfully submit that additional claims 27 and 28 are allowable due to their dependence upon allowable independent claim 20, as well as due to the additional recitations in these claims.

Favorable consideration and allowance of additional claims 27 and 28 are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-19 have been indicated by the Examiner as being allowable. In addition, dependent claim 24 has been indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter by the Examiner.

As the Examiner will note, claims 1-19 have been represented without amendment. Therefore, these claims should still be in condition for allowance. With regard to dependent claim 24, this claim has been presented in independent form, since the subject matter of dependent claim 24 has been added to independent claim 1 along with the subject matter of dependent claim 21. Dependent claims 21 and 24 have been canceled. Therefore,

independent claim 20 and dependent claims 22, 23 and 25-28 that depend from independent claim 20 should also be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, claims 1-20, 22, 23 and 25-28 should now be in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance of the above-identified application are therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining references cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state-of-the-art, no further comments are deemed necessary with respect thereto.


All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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